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P A T E N T C L A I M S

1. A coating composition comprising particles of a polyolefin wax or of a mixture of polyolefin waxes suspended in a liquid phase, wherein the polyolefin wax or the components in the mixture of polyolefin waxes are selected from the group consisting of polyethylene waxes, polypropylene waxes, and oxidized polyethylene and polypropylene waxes, and wherein the coating composition is applied to a surface, the liquid phase is evaporated from the applied coating composition, and the dried, applied coating composition is subjected to a heating treatment to coalesce said wax particles.
2. The coating composition according to claim 1 wherein the liquid phase of the coating composition has a boiling point or a boiling point range lower than the melting point or melting point range of the particles of the polyolefin wax or of the mixture of polyolefin waxes.
3. The coating composition according to any of claims 1 to 2 wherein the liquid phase of the coating composition is organic.
4. The coating composition according to any of the above claims wherein the liquid phase of the coating composition consists essentially of a member of the group consisting of ethers, esters, ketones, alcohols and mixtures thereof.
5. The coating composition according to any of the above claims wherein the liquid phase of the coating composition comprises an alcohol, preferably ethyl alcohol.
6. The coating composition according to claim 5

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wherein the liquid phase of the coating composition comprises an alcohol, preferably ethyl alcohol, and water.

7. The coating composition according to claim 6 wherein the concentration of water, calculated on weight basis, in the liquid phase is up to 50 %.

8. The coating composition according to any of claims 1 to 2 wherein the liquid phase of the coating composition is essentially aqueous.

9. The coating composition according to any of the above claims wherein the coating composition, calculated on weight basis, contains:
- polyolefin wax/mixture of polyolefin waxes 1 - 25 %, preferably 9 - 13 %, liquid phase 99 - 75 %, preferably 91 - 87%.

10. The coating composition according to any of the above claims wherein the coating composition comprises one or more auxiliary agents selected from the group consisting of diluting agents, dispersing agents, conservation agents, emulsifying agents, and colouring agents.

11. The coating composition according to claim 10 wherein the coating composition, calculated on weight basis, contains up to 10% auxiliary agents.

12. The coating composition according to any of the above claims wherein the coating composition is consisting essentially of particles of a polyolefin wax or of a mixture of polyolefin waxes suspended in a liquid phase.

13. The coating composition according to any of the above claims wherein the coating composition is consisting essentially of particles of a polyolefin wax or of a mixture of polyolefin waxes suspended in

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a liquid organic or aqueous phase and one or more auxiliary agents selected from the group consisting of diluting agents, dispersing agents, conservation agents, emulsifying agents, and colouring agents.

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14. The coating composition according to any of the above claims wherein the polyolefin wax or the components in the mixture of polyolefin waxes suspended in the coating composition is having a degree
10 of polymerisation between 8 and 100, in particular between 20 and 80.

15. The coating composition according to claims 1 to 14 wherein the polyolefin wax or the components in the mixture of polyolefin waxes suspended in the
15 coating composition is an oxidised polyethylene wax.

16. The coating composition according to claim 16 wherein the oxidised polyethylene wax has an acid number in the interval of 1 to 100 mg KOH/g, preferably in the interval of 1 to 40 mg KOH/g, more preferably in the interval of 1 to 30 mg KOH/g, even more
20 preferably in the interval of 2 to 20 mg KOH/g, yet more preferably in the interval of 2 to 10 mg KOH/g.

17. The coating composition according to any of the above claims wherein the polyolefin wax or one of
25 the components in the mixture of polyolefin waxes suspended in the coating composition is a polyethylene wax.

18. The coating composition according to any of the above claims wherein the polyolefin wax is essentially a polyethylene wax.
30

19. The coating composition according to any of claims 1 to 18 wherein the particle size of the polyethylene wax is between 0.1 and 100 μm , preferably

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between 2 and 25 μm , in particular between 4 and 20 μm .

20. The coating composition according to any of claims 1 to 19 wherein the melting point of the poly-
5 ethylene wax is between 70 and 200°C, preferably between 90 and 150°C, in particular between 90 and 120°C.

21. The coating composition according to any of claims 1 to 20 wherein the peak melting point of the
10 polyethylene wax is between 70 and 145°C, preferably between 80 and 140°C, in particular between 90 and 135°C, in particular between 95 and 120°C.

22. The coating composition according to any of claims 1 to 21 wherein the polyethylene wax is having
15 a degree of polymerisation between 10 and 3000, in particular between 10 and 2000, in particular between 10 and 1000, in particular between 10 and 500, in particular between 20 and 300, in particular between 30 and 200, in particular between 40 and 150, in par-
20 ticular between 40 and 100.

23. The coating composition according to any of claims 1 to 21 wherein the polyethylene wax is having a degree of polymerisation between 50 and 3000, in particular between 50 and 1500, in particular between
25 60 and 1000.

24. The coating composition according to any of claims 1 to 23 wherein the polyethylene wax is consisting of essentially linear polyethylene.

25. The coating composition according to any of
30 claims 1 to 24 wherein the polyethylene wax is a high-density polyethylene, HDPE.

26. The coating composition according to any of claims 1 to 25 wherein the polyethylene wax has a

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viscosity at 149 °C of 2000 mPa s or less, 1000 mPa s or less, of 300 mPa s or less, preferably 200 mPa s or less, preferably 150 mPa s or less, preferably 100 mPa s or less, preferably 70 mPa s or less, preferably 50 mPa s or less, preferably 40 mPa s or less.

27. The coating composition according to any of claims 1 to 26 wherein the polyethylene wax has a molecular weight distribution, M_w/M_n , of 1 to 25, preferably of 1 to 10, preferably of 1 to 5, preferably of 1 to 3, preferably of 1 to 2, preferably of 1 to 1.5, preferably of 1 to 1.2.

28. The coating composition according to any of claims 1 to 27 wherein the polyethylene wax has a molecular weight M_n in the interval of 400 to 3500 and a molecular weight distribution, M_w/M_n , of 6,0 or less, preferably has a molecular weight M_n in the interval of 400 to 3500 and a molecular weight distribution, M_w/M_n , of 4,0 or less, more preferably has a molecular weight M_n in the interval of 400 to 3500 and a molecular weight distribution, M_w/M_n , of 2,0 or less.

29. The coating composition according to any of claims 1, and 14 wherein the polyolefin wax or one of the components in the mixture of polyolefin waxes suspended in the coating composition is a polypropylene wax.

30. The coating composition according to any of claims 1 and 14 wherein the polyolefin wax is essentially a polypropylene wax.

31. The coating composition according to any of claims 1 and 14 wherein one of the components in the mixture of polyolefin waxes suspended in the coating composition is a co-polymer of propylene and one or

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more other olefins.

32. The coating composition according to any of claims 1, 14, and 29 to 31 wherein the particle size of the polypropylene wax is between 0.1 and 100 μm , preferably between 2 and 25 μm , in particular between 4 and 20 μm .

33. The coating composition according to any of claims 1, 14, and 29 to 32 wherein the melting point of the polypropylene wax is between 70 and 250°C, preferably between 100 and 180°C, in particular between 100 and 140°C.

34. The coating composition according to any of claims 1, 14, and 29 to 33 wherein the peak melting point of the polypropylene wax is between 70 and 200°C, preferably between 100 and 170°C, in particular between 110 and 160°C, in particular between 120 and 150°C.

35. The coating composition according to any of claims 1, 14, and 29 to 34 wherein the polypropylene wax is consisting of essentially unbranched polypropylene molecules.

36. The coating composition according to any of claims 1, 14, and 29 to 35 wherein the polypropylene wax is characterised as consisting of essentially isotactic polypropylene molecules.

37. The coating composition according to any of claims 1, 14, and 29 to 35 wherein the polypropylene wax is characterised as consisting of essentially syndiotactic polypropylene molecules.

38. The coating composition according to any of claims 1, 14, and 29 to 35 wherein the polypropylene wax is characterised as consisting of essentially stereo block polymer structures, i.e. molecules hav-

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ing segments being syndiotactic or isotactic.

39. The coating composition according to any of claims 1, 14, and 29 to 38 wherein the polypropylene wax has a viscosity at 190 °C of 400 mPa s or less, preferably 200 mPa s or less, preferably 150 mPa s or less, preferably mPa s or less, preferably 70 mPa s or less, preferably 50 mPa s or less, preferably 40 mPa s or less.

40. The coating composition according to any of claims 1, 14, and 29 to 39 wherein the polypropylene wax has a melt flow at 230 °C/2.16 kg of 40 g/min or more, preferably 100 g/min or more, preferably 500 g/min or more, preferably 1000 g/min or more, preferably 4000 g/min or more, preferably 8000 g/min or more.

41. The coating composition according to any of claims 1, 14, and 29 to 40 wherein the polypropylene wax has a molecular weight distribution, M_w/M_n , of between 1 and 25, preferably of between 1 and 10, preferably of between 1 and 5, preferably of between 1 and 3, preferably of between 1 and 2, preferably of between 1 and 1.5, preferably of between 1 and 1.2.

42. The coating composition according to any of claims 1 to 13 wherein the polyolefin wax or the components in the mixture of polyolefin waxes suspended in the coating composition consists essentially of one or more of the alkanes selected from the group of alkanes determined by the generic formula $\text{CH}_3\text{CHR}_1-(\text{CH}_2\text{CHR}_1)_n-\text{CHR}_1-\text{CH}_3$ for n equal to: 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, where $R_1 = \text{H}$ or CH_3 .

43. The coating composition according to any of

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claims 1 to 13 wherein the polyolefin wax or the components in the mixture of polyolefin waxes suspended in the coating composition consists essentially of one or more of the alkanes selected from the group of 5 alkanes determined by the generic formula $\text{CH}_3\text{CHR}_1-(\text{CH}_2\text{CHR}_1)_n-\text{CHR}_1-\text{CH}_3$ for n equal to:

49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61,
 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74,
 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87,
 10 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100,
 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110,
 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120,
 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130,
 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140,
 15 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150,
 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160,
 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170,
 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180,
 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190,
 20 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200,
 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210,
 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220,
 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230,
 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240,
 25 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, where $\text{R}_1 = \text{H}$
 or CH_3 .

44. The coating composition according to any of claims 42 or 43 wherein the alkanes has a number of alkyl groups situated on the carbon backbone of the 30 alkanes as branches, which number is 30 or less, preferably 20 or less, more preferably 10 or less, even more preferably 5 or less.

45. The coating composition according to 4

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wherein the alkyl groups situated on the carbon backbone of the alkane are selected from the group consisting of methyl, ethyl, propyl, butyl, pentyl, hexyl, heptyl, octyl, preferably from the group consisting of ethyl, butyl, hexyl, octyl, more preferably from the group consisting of ethyl and butyl, yet more preferably is ethyl.

46. The coating composition according to claim 42 or 43 wherein $R_1 = CH_3$ and all the methyl groups have the same stereochemistry.

47. The coating composition according to claim 42 or 43 wherein $R_1 = CH_3$ and the stereochemistry changes from one methyl group to a neighbouring other methyl group.

48. The coating composition according to claim 42 or 43 wherein $R_1 = CH_3$ and the molecular structure is a stereo block.

49. A method of treating a surface comprising the steps of

- providing a coating composition according to any of claims 1 to 48
- applying said coating composition to the surface;
- evaporating said liquid phase from the applied coating composition; and
- subjecting said dried, applied coating composition to a heating treatment to coalesce said wax particles.

50. A method of providing a surface with a protecting coating by

- applying a coating composition according to any of claims 1 to 48 to the surface;
- evaporating said liquid phase from the applied

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coating composition;

- subjecting said dried, applied coating composition to a heating treatment to raise the temperature of the dried coating composition to bring said particles of a polyolefin wax or of a mixture of polyolefin waxes into a coalescing state allowing said wax particles to provide a continuous coating of the surface; and
- allowing said heat treated coating composition to consolidate to a protective coating.

51. The method according to any of claims 49 to 50 wherein the coating composition is applied to the surface by spraying.

52. The method according to any of claims 49 to 51 wherein the coating composition is applied to the surface in an amount of 50 to 350 ml per m².

53. The method according to any of the claims 49 to 51, wherein the surface is selected from a surfaced of monuments; buildings; constructions having surface structures made of steel, aluminium, sandstone, marble, granite, slate, cement, fibre-reinforced cement, bricks, tiles, fibre glass-reinforced materials, and wood; public and private transportation vehicles like busses, trains, and trolleys; road and traffic signs; sheets; and ship hulls.

54. Use of the coating composition according to any of claims 1 to 48 for treating a surface.

55. Use of the coating composition according to any of claims 1 to 48 for providing a surface with an essentially permanent anti-graffiti coating.

56. Use of the coating composition according to

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any of claims 1 to 48 for providing a surface with an essentially permanent coating protecting against pollution and corrosion.

57. Use of the coating composition according to any of claims 1 to 48 for providing an under water structure, e.g. a ship hull, with an essentially permanent anti-fouling coating.

58. An article of manufacture comprising a structure with a surface obtainable by the method according to any of claims 53 to 56.

59. An article of manufacture comprising a structure with a surface obtainable by use of the coating composition according to any of claims 1 to 48.

60. A method of treating a sheet comprising the steps of

- providing a coating composition according to any of claims 1 to 48;
- applying said coating composition to at least one surface of the sheet;
- evaporating said liquid phase from the applied coating composition;
- subjecting said dried, applied coating composition to a heating treatment to coalesce said wax particles.

61. A method of producing a coated sheet comprising the steps of

- applying a coating composition according to any of claims 1 to 48 to at least one surface of the sheet;
- evaporating said liquid phase from the applied coating composition;

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- subjecting said dried, applied coating composition to a heating treatment to raise the temperature of the dried coating composition to bring said particles of a polyolefin wax or of a mixture of polyolefin waxes into a coalescing state allowing said wax particles to provide a continuous coating of the sheet; and allowing said heat treated coating composition to consolidate to a protective coating.

62.A method according to any of claims 60 to 61, wherein the sheet is a film.

63. A method according to any of claims 60 to 61, wherein the sheet 1 is comprising an adhesive layer 2 having a first major adhesive layer side and a second major adhesive layer side which defines the bottom surface of the sheet and a film 3 having a first major film side 4 and a second major film side, said second major film side being bonded to the first major adhesive layer side; and the coating composition being applied to said first major film side 4.

64. A method according to any of claims 60 to 61, wherein the sheet 101 is comprising an adhesive layer 102 having a first major adhesive layer side and a second major adhesive layer side which defines the bottom surface of the sheet and two or more films 103 each having a first major film side and a second major film side; and each film is stacked upon another film such that a second major film side of a film above is bonded to a first major film side of a film below except the low-

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est film in the stacked which has its second major film side bonded to the first major adhesive layer side; and the topmost film side 104 is subjected to said method 5 of coating.

65. A method according to any of claims 60 to 61, wherein the sheet 201 is comprising two or more pairs of layers 205, each pair of layers. 10 205 comprising an adhesive layer 202 having a first major adhesive layer side and a second major adhesive layer side, and a film 203 having a first major film side and a second major film side with the second major film 15 side being bonded to the first major adhesive layer side; and each pair of layers 205 is stacked upon another pair of layers 205 such that a second major adhesive layer side of a pair above is bonded to a first major film 20 side of a pair of layers 205 below; and the topmost film side 204 is subjected to said method of coating.

66. A method according to any of claims 60 to 61 wherein the sheet comprises one film with a first 25 major film side and a second major film side; and the first major film side and the second major film side are subjected to said coating method.

67. A method according to any of claims 60 to 66 wherein the film further comprises one or more of 30 the applicable substances selected from the group of laquer, overprint clear, clearcoat or backing, and combinations thereof, applied to a major film side.

68. A method according to any of claims 60 to 67

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wherein the sheet has a thickness of between 20 microns and 8000 microns, preferably between 30 microns and 5000 microns, more preferably between 30 microns and 2000 microns, even more preferably between 30 microns and 500 microns.

69. A method according to any of claims 60 to 68 wherein the film has a thickness of between 20 microns and 4000 microns, preferably between 20 microns and 2000 microns, more preferably between 20 microns and 500 microns, even more preferably between 20 microns and 250 microns.

70. An article comprising a sheet treated by the method of any of claims 60 to 69.

71. An article according to claim 70 further comprising a liner bonded to a major sheet surface.

72. An article according to claim 70 to 71 provided as a roll.

73. An article according to claim 70 to 71 provided as a separate sheet.

74. A structure which has been covered fully or in part with an article of claim 70, wherein the structure is selected from the group consisting of buildings, parts of buildings, elevators, windows, doors, tiles, walls, partitions, furniture, signs, bill boards, artwork, vehicles.

75. A structure according to claim 74 wherein the vehicle is selected from the group consisting of buses, trains, subway-trains, automobiles.

76. Use of an article of claim 70 for providing a surface of a structure according to any of claims 74-75 with an essentially permanent anti-graffiti coating.

77. Use of an article of claim 70 for providing

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a surface of a structure according to any of claims 74-75 with an essentially permanent coating protecting against pollution and corrosion.

78. A method of providing a surface of a structure with a protecting coating by coating a sheet on the structure comprising the steps of

- applying a coating composition according to any of claims 1 to 48 to the sheet;
- evaporating said liquid phase from the applied coating composition;
- subjecting said dried, applied coating composition to a heating treatment to raise the temperature of the dried coating composition to bring said particles of a polyolefin wax or of a mixture of polyolefin waxes into a coalescing state allowing said wax particles to provide a continuous coating of the sheet; and
- allowing said heat treated coating composition to consolidate to a protective coating.

79. A method according to claim 78, wherein the sheet is consisting of a film.

80. A method according to claim 78, wherein the sheet 1 is comprising an adhesive layer 2 having a first major adhesive layer side and a second major adhesive layer side which defines the bottom surface of the sheet and a film 3 having a first major film side 4 and a second major film side, said second major film side being bonded to the first major adhesive layer side; and the coating composition being applied to said first major film side 4.

81. A method according to claim 78, wherein

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the sheet 101 is comprising
an adhesive layer 102 having a first major adhesive
layer side and a second major adhesive layer side
which defines the bottom surface of the sheet and
5 two or more films 103 each having a first major film
side and a second major film side; and
each film is stacked upon another film such that a
second major film side of a film above is bonded to a
first major film side of a film below except the low-
10 est film in the stacked which has its second major
film bonded to the first major adhesive layer side;
and
the topmost film side 104 is subjected to said method
of coating.

15 82. A method according to claim 78, wherein
the sheet 201 is comprising
two or more pairs of layers 205, each pair of layers
205 comprising
an adhesive layer 202 having a first major adhesive
20 layer side and a second major adhesive layer side,
and
a film 203 having a first major film side and a sec-
ond major film side with the second major film side
being bonded to the first major adhesive layer side;
25 and
each pair of layers 205 is stacked upon another pair
of layers 205 such that a second major adhesive layer
side of a pair above is bonded to a first major film
side of a pair of layers 205 below; and
30 the topmost film side 204 is subjected to said method
of coating.

83. A method according to any of claims 78 to
82 wherein the film further comprises one or more of

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the applicable substances selected from the group of laquer, overprint clear, clearcoat or backing, and combinations thereof, applied to a major film side.

84. A method according to any of claims 78 to 5 83 wherein the sheet has a thickness of between 20 microns and 8000 microns, preferably between 30 microns and 5000 microns, more preferably between 30 microns and 2000 microns, even more preferably between 30 microns and 500 microns.

10 85. A method according to any of claims 78 to 84 wherein the film has a thickness of between 20 microns and 4000 microns, preferably between 20 microns and 2000 microns, more preferably between 20 microns and 500 microns, even more preferably between 20 mi- 15 crons and 250 microns.

86. A structure which has been applied with the method of any of claims 78 to 85, wherein the structure is selected from the group consisting of buildings, parts of buildings, elevators, windows, doors, 20 tiles, walls, partitions, furniture, signs, bill boards, artwork, vehicles.

87. A structure according to claim 86, wherein the vehicle is selected from the group consisting of buses, trains, automobiles, subway-trains.

25 88. Use of the method of any of claims 78 to 85 for providing a surface of a structure according to any of claims 86 to 87 with an essentially permanent anti-graffiti coating.

89. Use of the method of any of claims 78 to 85 30 for providing a surface of a structure according to any of claims 86 to 87 with an essentially permanent coating protecting against pollution and corrosion.